

I hereby certify that this paper (along with any paper referred to as being attached or enclosed) is being deposited with the U.S. Postal Service on the date shown below with sufficient postage as First Class Mail, in an envelope addressed to: Mail Stop PCT, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

Dated: February 8, 2007

Signature:

  
(James J. Napoli)

Docket No.: 29827/41950  
(PATENT)

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re Patent Application of:  
Martin Beck et al.

Application No.: 10/576,049

Confirmation No.: 8929

Filed: April 14, 2006

Art Unit: 3761

For: HYDROGEL CAPABLE OF ABSORBING  
BLOOD AND/OR BODY FLUIDS

Examiner: Not Yet Assigned

**TRANSMITTAL OF ENGLISH-LANGUAGE TRANSLATION OF  
THE INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY EXAMINATION REPORT**

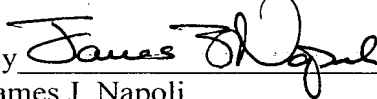
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

Applicants hereby submit an English-language translation of the International Preliminary Examiner Report issued in connection with PCT/EP2004/012177, from which applicants claim priority.

Dated: February 8, 2007

Respectfully submitted,

By   
James J. Napoli

Registration No.: 32,361  
MARSHALL, GERSTEIN & BORUN LLP  
233 S. Wacker Drive, Suite 6300  
Sears Tower  
Chicago, Illinois 60606-6357  
(312) 474-6300  
Attorney for Applicant